# Washington State On-Site Wastewater Rule Development Committee December 12, 2002

December 12, 2002
SeaTac Occupational Skills Center
18010 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue South
SeaTac, Washington
(Meeting # 7 notes)

Representation	Members / Alternates	2/13	3/28	5/22	7/17	9/19	10/24	12/12	1/23	3/13	5/8
WA Assoc of Realtors	Slough, Frederick	+	+	+	+		+				
	Stout, Larry		+								
Building Industry of WA	Stanton E.C.	+	+	+		+		+			
	Kunkel, Jenn (T. Neal)	+		+	+	+	+	+			
On-Site Wastewater Designer	Wecke,r, Steve	+	+	+	+	+		+			
	Lombardi, Pete	+					+	+			
On-Site Wastewater Installer	Stuth, Jr., Bill	+	+	+	+	+	+	+			
	Stonebridge, Jerry	+									
Certified Proprietary Device Specialist	Garrison, Carl	+	+	+	+	+	+	+			
	Morris, Mike										
OSS Pumper/O&M Specialist	Tacia, Reed	+	+	+	+	+	+	+			
	Markle, Steve	+	+			+	+	+			
Proprietary Products At-Large	Patterson, Jim	+	+	+		+	+	+			
Planning WA Assoc of Counties	Shuttleworth, Mike		+	+	+	+	+				
Local Health Jurisdictions (Westside-	Deeter, Jerry	+	+	+	+	+	+	+			
Urban)	Starry, Art	+			+		+				
	Higman, Keith		+				+	+			
	Fay, Larry	+			+		+	+			
Local Health Jurisdictions (Eastside-Urban)  Local Health Jurisdictions (Eastside-Rural)  Soil Scientist	Perkins, Bruce		+	+							
	Dawson, Rick	+	+	+	+	+	+				
	Barry, Kevin	+	+	+	+	+	+				
	Wolpers, John										
	Cogger, Craig						+	+			
Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team	Hermann, C			+		+	+	+			
	Hull, Terry	+	+	+	+		+	+			
Indian Health Services	Dalton, Robin	+	+	+	+	+					
Indian Health Services	Daiton, Kodin	+	+	+	+	<u> </u>					
WA Shellfish Industry  WA Dept of Ecology  WA Assoc of Water & Sewer Dist	Dewey, Bill			+	+	+	+				
	Taylor, Bill					+		+			
	, . ,		+			+	+				
	Kimsey, Melanie		+		+	+					
	Shaleen-Hansen, Mary	+					+				
Consumer	Hart, James		+	+		+					
	Wiggins, Margaret	+ +	+				+				
	Smith, Denise	+	+ +	+	+	+	+				
WA Dept of Health	Salkind, Mark Soltman, Mark	+	+	+	+	+	+	+			
WA Dept of Health	Suman, Mark		Т					Т			
People for Puget Sound	Wishart, Bruce										
	vi ishai t, Di uce										
WA Public Utilities Districts	Kukuk, Ken										
	Robertson, Robbie										
Professional Engineer	Yuhl, Mike	+	+	+		+	+	+			
	I um, mike	<u>'</u>		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>'</u>			
Tribal Government	McMurtrie, Doug	+	+	+	+	+	+				
Titout Government	micmul tile, Doug	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<del>- '</del>	<del>- '</del>	<del>- '</del>	<u> </u>	<b> </b>	<u> </u>		-

<sup>+</sup> Present at meeting, Members Alternates

### RDC Meeting Agenda December 12, 2002

- 1. Operation and Maintenance.
- 2. A report from the TRC.

#### On-Site Wastewater RDC Meeting Notes for December 12, 2002

(Notes from flip-charts)

#### **O&M** questionnaire

Individual review

In large group—

- 1. Understand each question?
- 2. Additional/different questions?
- 3. One question at a time:
  - Straw poll
  - Discussion
  - Decision
- 4. Next questions in section
- 5. Next sections

### **O&M** management and operations (Element #2)

- 1. Should local O&M programs focus resources on sites\* (areas) with greater limitations, and more complex systems?
- \*...at greater public health risk?
  - New and old systems
  - Access to properties difficult
  - Conscious choice of sites based on examination of all sites
- 2. Should the level of O&M be the same for all sites?

**Decision:** O&M requirements vary by site/complexity

- Established by LHJs
- Guidance from DOH and others
- 3. Where should detailed requirements for local O&M programs be placed?
- A. Maintain current language re: requirements of LHJs
- B. Add desired outcomes/objectives; describe desired outcomes of O&M programs [Require that outcomes be described in rule, but specific outcomes in guidance]

(Notes from staff)

A questionnaire relating to Operation and Maintenance (O&M) was distributed. The questionnaire was designed to focus the committee's discussion on the policy issues of the five elements of O&M previously presented. It included brief background statements, summaries of RDC-member comments and key questions for each element. The committee agreed to try the questionnaire approach.

**Decision:** Yes, LHJs should devote a greater share of resources to these sites AND the decision as to how and where to focus resources should remain at the local level.

- Educate owners
- Identify systems by location and type
- Identify failures
- Assure timely repairs
- C. General requirement to protect surface and groundwater; require LHJs to have an O&M program to minimize contamination of surface and ground water from failing or improperly maintained OSS
- D. Reed's language: DOH shall require LHJs to develop an operation, monitoring and maintenance program based on risk factors identified by DOH and supported by DOH OM&M standards and guidance.

### **O&M System Owner Responsibility** (Element #3)

1. Agree or disagree: Proper operation of OSS treatment system is the responsibility of system owner?

**Decision:** Yes

- 2. Should complex OSS require monitoring, maintenance, and servicing by trained and qualified personnel?

  Decision: Yes
- 3. Should the homeowner be required in state rule to maintain a local operating permit...?

  No agreement
- 4. Should detailed provisions of local operating permits be addressed only in local jurisdiction rules and regulations?
- 5. If No on #4, what additional items would you add...?

#### **O&M Education—Practitioner**

## Licensing and Certification (Element #4)

- 1. Should qualifications and scope-of-practice for <u>installers</u> be established?
- 2. Should LHJs license and certify installers?
- 3. Should qualifications and scope-of-practice for <u>pumpers</u> be established?
- 4. Should LHJs license and certify pumpers?
- 5. Should qualifications and scope-ofpractice for <u>O&M service providers</u> be established?
- 6. Should LHJs license and certify <u>O&M</u> service providers?
- 7. Should proprietary product manufacturers' role in assuring training of public and private sector OSS practitioners be established?

**Decision:** Yes, in rule

O&M processes, procedures, and schedules (Element #5)

1. ...detailed processes, procedures, and service schedules are needed for OSS treatment systems and components.

**Decision:** Agree

2. Should OSS product and component manufacturers be responsible for the development and distribution of detailed processes, procedures and service schedules for their products.

**Decision:** Yes, in rule

3. Should DOH be responsible for the development of detailed O&M processes, procedures, and service schedules for public

Larry Fay directed the committee to a '98 report to the legislature on the findings and recommendations of a workgroup charged with evaluating the need for certification of all classes of people involved with on-site septic systems. The report will be forwarded to the RDC as background for this discussion.

domain systems and components...? **Decision:** Yes, but not in rule

- 4. Should a few basic requirements that anchor O&M activities be established in rule?
- 5. If Yes to #4, what additional items would you add...?

#### O&M ideas

[captured throughout discussion]

- Sewer
- Go backwards in design tech.
- Designer requirements
- New approach to O&M?
- Lifespan of drainfield
- OSS operator permits—"license to operate"
- Include minimum statewide fees (to prevent unfounded mandate)
- Backing from county to require O&M contracts
- O&M fees would affect choices of proprietary products

**O&M in January** [items left to discuss in January's RDC meeting]

- Element #4, Questions 1-6, Qualifications of practitioners
- Element #2, Questions 3
- Element #3, Questions 3, 4, 5, four options
- Come back to Areas of Special Concern

#### TRC report

2a. Designer characterize quantity and quality of wastewater?

**Decision**: Yes

2b. Definition of "wastewater quality" Decision: Yes

2c. Definition of "residential septic tank effluent"

Return in January

Presentation and discussion of issues outlined in the handout "Report on TRC Activities December 12, 2002 RDC Meeting"

Program Support Issue #6 Repair of Failure Issue #7

Handouts introducing the issues were distributed for discussion in January.

#### Future meetings:

- January 23, 2003
- March 13, 2003
- May 8, 2003